

ORGANIZATION STATEMENT
DOD/USFWS
Threatened Endangered and At-Risk Species Science Forum
(TER-S Science Forum)

BACKGROUND

This serves as a committee of the DoD/USFWS Endangered Species Roundtable (Roundtable). The Roundtable is a partnership effort of the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the Department of Defense (DoD). In 2004 the TER-S Science Forum created a document to define the organization's purpose, scope and structure.

SCOPE. The scope of this committee emphasizes the scientific issues affecting threatened, endangered and at-risk species (TER-S) on and around DoD installations as well as testing and training areas used by the DoD, including land, air space and oceans (DoD lands).

MISSION

This committee exists to:

- Promote the development of partnerships with other Federal agencies that focus on TER-S issues on DoD or adjacent lands and waters.
- Promote the natural resource partnership between DoD and FWS.

OBJECTIVES.

- Develop and implement a DoD/FWS science plan.
- Develop and adopt a formal system for coordination of TER-S-related research by the Departments of Interior, Defense, and Agriculture, especially those on military lands, in accordance with a 2003 General Accounting Office study suggestion.
- Help coordinate research recommendations and priorities related to TER-S species, especially those on military lands, among the major funding sources (e.g., SERDP, Military Services, USGS), to assist with identification of TER-S research priorities.
- Provide support to SERDP to implement the June 2005 technical symposium and workshop entitled "*Threatened, Endangered and At-Risk Species on DoD and Adjacent Lands*".
- Promote DoD/FWS TER-S science efforts with other governmental agencies, non-governmental agencies (NGOs) and the public.
- Serve as an advisory committee for SERDP and the Military Services on TER-S issues.

STRUCTURE.

- The committee consists of members from the following organizations:
 - FWS

- DoD
 - SERDP
 - US Army
 - USMC
 - US Navy
 - USAF
- Other organizations can be invited to attend. These include, but are not limited to the following:
 - US Department of Agriculture
 - Forest Service
 - Natural Resource Conservation Service
 - Farm Service Agency
 - others as appropriate
 - US Geological Survey
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - NOAA Fisheries
- The leadership for the committee consists of the following:
 - Chair
 - Administrative support - USFWS and SERDP
- Subcommittees will be formed on an ad hoc basis.
- Resources for the committee will be provided from each member's organization based on availability. Each participating organization will identify its representative(s).
- Meeting times will coincide with the Roundtable's meeting unless the Chair feels additional or fewer meetings are required or need to be scheduled at a different time.